

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of sorting e-mail, comprising:
5 receiving an e-mail;
identifying whether the e-mail has a vendor
registration code for identifying a vendor from whom the
e-mail was forwarded;
if the e-mail has a vendor registration code,
10 presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having vendor
registration codes.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of
identifying whether the e-mail has a vendor registration
15 code further comprises identifying whether the e-mail has
a vendor registration purpose code for identifying the
purpose of the e-mail.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of
20 presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having vendor
registration codes further comprises presenting the e-
mail with other e-mails having the same vendor
registration code and vendor registration purpose code.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of identifying whether the e-mail has a registration code further comprises identifying the username from which the e-mail was forwarded and the source from which the e-mail was forwarded.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising identifying whether the username and source identify a valid contact; and

if the username and source identify a valid contact, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having a username and source identifying a valid contact.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising identifying a source category corresponding to the source identified for the e-mail; and

presenting the e-mail along with others that were received from the source category.

7. A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions thereon for implementing the method of claim 1.

8. A method of sorting e-mails, comprising:

receiving an e-mail;

if the e-mail is from a source that is

identified in a contact list, presenting the e-mail with
other e-mails received from sources identified in the
contact list; and

if the e-mail is from a source that is
registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with
other e-mails received from sources registered to forward
e-mails.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

if the e-mail is not from a source that is
identified in a contact list and not from a source that
is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail
with other e-mails that are not from a source that is
identified in a contact list and not from a source that
is registered to forward e-mails.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein presenting the
e-mail with other e-mails that are not from a source that
is identified in a contact list and not from a source

that is registered to forward e-mails comprises presenting the e-mail with other e-mails from the same source category.

5 11. The method of claim 9, further comprising parsing the e-mail to identify at least one of the following: a username from whom the e-mail was forwarded; a source from which the e-mail was forwarded; a vendor registration code; and a vendor registration purpose
10 code.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising comparing the username and source to the contact list to determine if the e-mail is from a source that is
15 identified in the contact list.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising determining using the vendor registration code whether the e-mail is from a source registered to forward e-
20 mails.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising determining using the vendor registration purpose code

whether the e-mail is from a source registered to forward e-mails.

15. A computer readable medium having computer
5 executable instructions stored thereon for performing the
method recited in claim 8.

16. A method of registering an e-mail source to
forward e-mail to a user, comprising:

10 storing a vendor registration code for the e-
mail source;

 forwarding the vendor registration code to the
e-mail source; and

 if an e-mail is received from the source
15 having the vendor registration code therein, presenting
the e-mail with other e-mails having a vendor
registration code.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising:

20 storing a vendor registration purpose code for
the e-mail source;

 forwarding the vendor registration purpose code
to the e-mail source; and

if an e-mail is received from the source having the vendor registration purpose code therein, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having a vendor registration code and the vendor registration purpose
5 code.

18. A system for sorting e-mails, comprising:
a memory; and
a processor,

10 wherein said processor is operable to perform the following acts:

receive an indication that an e-mail has been received;

if the e-mail is from a source that is
15 identified in a contact list, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails received from sources identified in the contact list; and

if the e-mail is from a source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with
20 other e-mails received from sources registered to forward e-mails.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said processor

is operable to perform the following act:

if the e-mail is not from a source that is
identified in a contact list and not from a source that
is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail
5 with other e-mails that are not from a source that is
identified in a contact list and not from a source that
is registered to forward e-mails.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said processor
10 is operable to perform the following act:

presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that
are not from a source that is identified in a contact
list and not from a source that is registered to forward
e-mails comprises presenting the e-mail with other e-
15 mails from the same source category.